Amendment To The Claims:

Claims 1-6 Canceled.

7. (Currently amended) A cable system having an RF module coupled to provide bi-directional communication between a drop interface and a home interface, the RF module comprising:

upstream and downstream paths;

at least the upstream path having filters; and

a controller for selectively providing unimpeded, partially impeded, and full cut off of cable service in the upstream path, and controlling upstream gain and attenuation in the upstream path,

wherein the level of attenuation depends on a maximum upstream level from an interface associated with the RF module and the selection by the controller of providing an unimpeded, partially impeded, or full cut off of cable service in the upstream path.

8. (Original) The cable system of claim 7 wherein relays in the upstream path are operated by the controller to obtain unimpeded, partially impeded and full cut off cable service in the upstream path.

9. (Original) The cable system of claim 6 wherein a filter for impeding frequencies below a first frequency and above second higher frequency is selectively coupled into the downstream path by said relays to pass only frequencies between said first and second frequencies.

10. (Original) The cable system of claim 8 wherein the controller operates said relays to provide an open circuit in the upstream path to fully cut off cable service in the upstream path.

11. (Previously presented) The cable system of claim 8 wherein the upstream path is provided with a low pass filter selectively coupled in the upstream path to provide unimpeded cable service in the upstream path.

12. (Original) The cable system of claim 7 further comprising an adjustable amplifier in the upstream path operated by the controller to provide power equalization to limit ingress noise in the upstream path.

13. (Currently amended) A cable system have an RF module coupled to provide bi-directional communication between a drop interface and a home interface, the RF module comprising:

upstream and downstream paths;

each path having filters; and

a controller for selectively providing unimpeded, partially impeded, and fully cut off cable service in the upstream and downstream paths, and controlling upstream gain and attenuation in the upstream path,

wherein the level of attenuation depends on a maximum upstream level from an interface associated with the RF module and the selection by the controller of providing an unimpeded, partially impeded, or full cut off of cable service in the upstream path.

14. (Original) The cable system of claim 13 wherein relays in the upstream and the downstream paths are operated by the controller to selectively obtain unimpeded, partially impeded and fully cut off cable service.

15. (Original) The cable system of claim 14 wherein a filter for impeding frequencies below a first frequency and above a second frequency is selectively coupled into the upstream path by said relays to pass only frequencies between said first and second frequencies.

16. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the controller operates said relays to selectively provide an open circuit in the upstream and downstream paths to fully cut off cable service in the upstream and downstream paths.

17. (Original) The cable system of claim 13 wherein the upstream path is provided with a bypass conductor selectively coupled in the upstream path to provide unimpeded cable service in the upstream path.

18. (Original) The cable system of claim 15 wherein the upstream path is provided with an amplifier controlled by a cable modem to provide power equalization to limit ingress noise from the home interface.

19. (Original) The cable system of claim 15 wherein the downstream path provided with an amplifier controlled by a cable modem to avoid excessive insertion loss.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)